St. Mary of Gostyn Catholic Church

JANUARY 14, 2018

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

As John The Baptist Watched Jesus Walk By, He Said,

“Behold, the Lamb of God.”

JOHN 1:36
REWARD YOURSELF... AND YOUR FAMILY

MEN’S C.R.H.P. WEEKEND
St. Mary of Gostyn (SMG) Parish Center
Saturday-Sunday, Jan 27-28, 2018

- GUYS NIGHT OUT – WHY NOT YOU?
  - Free Weekend – No cost to you!
  - 5 cooked meals!
  - No NFL games are playing that weekend!
  - Great conversation & laughter!
  - Audio, Visual, Man Cave & More!
  - Meet other Men in the SMG Parish
  - Deepen your Faith

 Reserve Your Spot: 630-969-1063 (Rectory)
 d_sheeran@yahoo.com – Dave Sheeran 630.442.4425

St. Mary of Gostyn – Adult Formation – Christ Renews His Parish CRHP
Second Sunday
in Ordinary Time

“Speak, for your servant is listening.” With those few words Samuel humbles himself and declares his loyalty and obedience to God. There are perhaps for many of us challenges in those words. Initially Samuel responds “Here I am,” but thinks it was Eli who called him. The idea of being a servant and the willingness to serve are what may be trials for us in terms of how we live.

Samuel does not recognize the voice of the Lord. That, too, may be a problem for us. First we need to be listening. Are we, or are we merely going through the motions? Responding to God with “Here I am” is a magnificent way to react to God. It is not that God does not know where we are, but saying that can serve as a reminder to us that we are stewards, servants to Him, and it implies we are prepared to hear what He wants us to do.

“Here I am” is said numerous times by those in the Old Testament including Abraham, Jacob, Moses, Isaiah, and by Ananias in the New Testament. When Jesus says, “Come follow me,” as He does to us, do we hear Him, and even more important do we respond and do we follow?

In order to do that properly we have to be prepared to serve Him and others. Thus, like Samuel, we need to listen, and then we need to serve. At a recent papal audience, Pope Francis said, “Love and charity are service, helping others, serving others. When you forget yourself and think of others, this is love!”

Should I become a godfather?

My brother asked me to be the godfather of his new baby girl. At first, I was honored to be asked, but now I’m a little anxious. What does a godfather have to do?

Congratulations. You are right, it is an honor to be a godparent. You should also have a healthy sense of fear—it is a serious responsibility.

Church law requires several qualifications for being a godparent/spONSOR. As a godparent/spONSOR you represent the larger Catholic community into which the child is being received.

This means that you must be properly educated about the meaning of baptism and the responsibilities that you will undertake on behalf of the Church.

Parishes often include godparents in the baptismal preparation programs they offer to parents. This baptismal instruction might challenge you to examine your life. How will you assist the parents in making their home a domestic church where their child will discover a living faith as she grows? The power of good example cannot be emphasized enough. A child may not understand the behavior of adults, but the child sees their actions. You cannot tell a child to pray if you yourself don’t pray.

Besides instruction, you must have the intention of carrying out your responsibility—don’t say “yes” just to be there for the pictures. As a Catholic, you must be practicing, have made your first Communion, been Confirmed, and be at least sixteen years old (though some dioceses may have other age requirements). You should have received all the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist) if you are going to be a credible witness to your godchild as she begins her journey of initiation into the Christian life.

I hope I haven’t scared you off. The Church takes baptism very seriously. You are being invited to participate in the most important day of this child’s life. Don’t let it just be a day of pictures and a party. Make sure it changes your life too.

Father William J. Parker, C.Ss.R.
**Stewardship**

Christian stewardship begins with the call to discipleship and in today's Gospel we discover those first individuals who sought out Jesus and wanted to listen to him, learn from him and stay with him. Today, Christian stewards search out the hidden presence of Jesus in their own lives every day. They know Christ is the “Messiah” who will one day bring about a perfect restoration to a troubled world. They further understand that they are sacraments of his hidden presence in the world. Their task is to make that reality known through their own words and actions. What is one thing we can do to be better stewards of Christ’s life in us?

**A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly Collection 1/7/2017</th>
<th>$28,245.26</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Goal (Fiscal Year 17/18)</td>
<td>$29,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goals to Date</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Goal to Date</td>
<td>$797,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Goal to Date</td>
<td>$110,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Goals to Date</td>
<td>$907,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collections to Date</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Collections to Date</td>
<td>$789,561.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Collections to Date</td>
<td>$113,527.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Collections to Date</td>
<td>$903,088.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (Short of) Goals to Date</td>
<td>($4,411.65)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you for your continuing support and generosity.
January is traditionally the time for new beginnings and fresh starts. For the Christian steward, the grace of being gifted with another day, or God willing, a whole new year, stirs our deep gratitude. But it also a time that challenges us to reflect on our past choices, actions, and decisions.

Last fall, during our stewardship campaign, we were asked to reflect on what more we could do be better stewards of God’s gifts to us in terms of prayer, service, and sacrificial giving. January 1 always finds large segments of our society declaring their intent to lose weight, quit smoking, exercise more, etc. Unfortunately, that resolve is often but a faded memory by the time we take the first bite of Valentine’s candy.

**Will Jesus be a priority in our lives in 2018?** Will our stewardship pledges of three months ago remain a part of our daily resolve or dissipate as quickly as the Bears Super Bowl chances by game 3 of every season? Take some time to reflect on your own personal priorities and values by taking this shorts 5-step assessment to continue your pledge to deepen your relationship with the Lord.

### #1. How do you spend the time entrusted to you?
Name six to ten things you spent the most time doing regularly this past year.

1.  
2.  
3.  
4.  
5.  
6.  
7.  
8.  
9.  
10.  

### #2. How do you allocate the financial resources entrusted to you?
Name six to ten things you probably spent the most money on this past year.

1.  
2.  
3.  
4.  
5.  
6.  
7.  
8.  
9.  
10.  

### #3. Jesus as a priority in our lives during the past year:
Mark an X on the line below that you think represents how high a priority Jesus has been in your life this past year (using actual time and money spent as a particular indicator.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low priority</th>
<th>Medium priority</th>
<th>High priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### #4. Jesus as a priority during the coming year – a personal decision:
Draw a small circle on the line above that represents how high a priority you would like Jesus to be in your life this coming year.

### #5. My concrete plan for a better relationship with Christ Jesus:
What are some things I could start, stop, or continue that would help me toward what I decided in Step 4 above.

Start:

Stop:

Continue:
MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 2017
6:15 AM - Shirley Kerrigan req. Calistro Family
8:00 AM - Roger Glanz

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2017
6:15 AM - Margie Schumacher req. Deacon Al & Carol Agurkis
8:00 AM - Arlo & Lauretta Anderson req. Family

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2017
6:15 AM - Kathleen M. Robinson
8:00 AM - Sal Madonia req. Ron & Mary Buchler
         Wanda Mayer req. Helene Mayer

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2017
6:15 AM - Michael Kummerer
8:00 AM - Rose Beales req. Jim & Rita Regis

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2017
6:15 AM - Jack Luka req. Sanderson Family
8:00 AM - Living Intention for Betty Gieb & Family req. Harrington Family

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2017
8:00 AM - Louise Clemens
4:30 PM - Norbert Dytrych req. Ploskonka Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2017
8:00 AM - Robert Noonan req. Rita Blaney
         Joseph Massura req. Family
10:00 AM - People of the Parish
12:00 PM - Marilyn Zubak req. Toth Family
         Kay Selfridge req. Mr. & Mrs. Richard Craven
6:00 PM - Jack Luka req. Enochs Family

TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading - Speak, for your servant is listening (1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19).
Psalm - Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will (Psalm 40).
Second Reading - Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you?
         (1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20).
Gospel - Andrew found his brother Simon and brought him to Jesus (John 1:35-42).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13; Ps 89:20-22, 27-28; Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Mk 3:1-6
Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Ps 56:2-3, 9-13; Mk 3:7-12
Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21; Ps 57:2-4, 6, 11; Mk 3:13-19
Saturday: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Ps 80:2-3, 5-7; Mk 3:20-2
Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20
DECEMBER 2017 REPORT

Thank You, St Mary’s, for your continuing generosity to the food pantry. This month St Mary’s provided food for 313 Individuals within 131 Families. For the year, we have fed 3,727 Individuals within 1,536 Families. Words can’t adequately describe the generosity of St Mary’s parishioners. We can’t thank you enough for your generosity; but we can, and will pray for you. THANK YOU!

Items most in need are Mac & Cheese.

FRIENDS OF THE PANTRY DONATIONS

1. If you shop at Trader Joe’s or Fresh Thyme thank them for their continuing generosity.
2. Received a large food donation in memory of Walter Murawski from Jim/Lois Murawski.
3. Thank You Frank Szfranski for sponsoring a huge donation from your Ameriprise Office providing over 50 grocery bags of food.
4. Received a nice donation of Mac & Cheese from St Mary’s 3rd graders.
5. Received a nice donation from Brownie Troop 55107 at Whittier School.
6. Received a large donation from Ron/Linda Cuchna.
7. Received a huge donation from Jan Sims family and friends Birthday Party for her husband.

We hope all parishioners had a very MERRY CHRISTMAS with Family & Friends. May your NEW YEAR be filled with HEALTH and HAPPINESS. Keep Christ in Your Heart and a Smile on your Face.

December Adage: Failure is success if we learn from it.

Don’t forget Amazon Shoppers! You can donate to St. Mary’s SVDP Conference at no cost to you by going to smile.amazon.com and selecting St. Vincent de Paul - St. Mary of Gostyn. A percentage of your purchase is automatically donated to SVDP with every Amazon order you place. Thank you for your support!

Thank you, St Mary’s, from all of us at Saint Vincent DePaul we could not accomplish all that we have without your support, God bless you. Please keep us in your prayers. Parishioners experiencing financial hardships are most welcome at our Food Pantry. We are open every Wednesday from 8:00am until 11:00am unless Wednesday falls on a holiday, then we open on the preceding Tuesday.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Are you celebrating an anniversary or special occasion? Would you like to memorialize a loved one?

Why not consider donating flowers to enhance our altar during Ordinary Time? Please call Pat Noonan, 964-4529, at least 2-3 weeks prior to your special event so an acknowledgement can be placed in the bulletin.

Check us out on the web!
www.stmarygostyn.org
Parish, School, Religious Education and Diocesan news at the click of a mouse!
Open House Tours

All Are Welcome...

-Preschool/Kindergarten Info Night
JAN 25
6:30 P.M. - 8 P.M.

-All-School Open House and Tours
JAN 28
9 A.M. – NOON

-3 year old Preschool thru 8th Grade
-Award Winning Preschool
-Challenging academics tailored to the individual needs of each child
-Motivating teachers that nurture a child's curiosity and cultivate a love of learning
-No-cut sports (Cross Country, Volleyball, Basketball)
-Catholic Culture: daily prayer, religion class and weekly Mass
-Upon graduation, students are accepted into the public or private high school of their choice, often with advanced placement in classes

Reserve your seat today at STMARYGOSTYN.ORG
440 Prairie Ave | Downers Grove, IL | 630.968.6155
Prayer Requests

The following persons have requested prayers from our parish community:

Judith Abella
Gabriella Beirne
Tom Brown
Jean Dahm
Becca Gorman
Hope Hathaway
Joseph Karlinski
Eddie Mayerik
Andrea Mutton
Mary Ann Mutton
Eliza Skipworth
Hugh Toner
Ashley Wolman
Greg Yearling
Martha Laughlin
George Hejny
Nicholas T. Almeida
Abby Beranek
Felicia Bubula
Frank Davis
Mark Gowgiel
Robert Hayes
Kenny Kern
Spencer Mehr
Rob Noonan
Eleanor Pecka
Yoshie Snider
Mark Trout
Katie Main Hwan
Frankie Colonna
Margaret Augustyniak
Lois Bach
Kathy Berg
Ann Clark
Jessica Davy
Diane Goyette
Erinn Henes
Doreen Lehner
Dolores Mendoza
Fr. Ernie Norbeck
Cynthia Petro
Joey Stefka
Laine Van Houton
Minnie Lopez
Dennis Stefka
John Sommer
Anna Bandur
Sharon Binter
Margaret Corbett
Jim Donovan
Rion Goyette
Bobby Johnson
Robert Lehner
Kate Moss
Ken Norman
Char Ryan
Joan Taggionia
Audrey Waechtler
Minnie Lopez
Dennis Stefka
John Sommer
Logan Bannon
Bill Brown
Helen Czulak
Dennis Finn
Gen Hadamik
Donna Karlinski
Virginia Mates
James Murawksi
Daniel Oliver
Tom Salansky
Sharon Talleric
Loretta Wies
Larry Lovitch
Tony Romazzatto
George Drobney

In Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the family of
Joseph Koma

Pray for our Military

Let us pray for all of our military personnel, especially the men and women of our parish who are serving in harm’s way:

Kevin Braasch
Christopher Fountain
Timothy Randazzo
Michael Martel
Nathan Kijowski
Kyle Ng
Natalya Brechlin
Bob Lang
Christopher Randazzo
John Svoboda
Zachary Frana
Richard Ciner

St. Mary of Gostyn Ministry to the Homebound

Do you have a homebound family member, friend, or neighbor who would like to receive the Eucharist on Sunday mornings?

If so, please have them contact Deacon Bob at the Parish Center at 630/960-1063, ext 244.

A Minister to the Homebound will be happy to visit them.

First Friday visits are also offered.

Nursing Home / Hospital Visitation

Notify the Rectory, (630) 969-1063, if you or a family member want a pastoral visit while in a healthcare facility. Without such notification, the rectory has no method of knowing who wants visitation.

(Please also see the tables at every church entrance for consent forms for healthcare facilities to notify the rectory of request for visitation).
First Reconciliation

Congratulations!

Congratulations to all of our students who completed their preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. May this Sacrament bring you the peace and mercy of God through your whole life long!

Religious Education Dates

Please pay attention to the following dates on your calendar.

- January 17 & 18 Regular RE/Conf. Sessions
- January 24 & 25 Regular RE/Conf. Sessions
- Jan. 31 & Feb. 1 Regular RE/Conf. Sessions
- February 6 1st Holy Communion

Enrollment—Students and Parents

Confirmation March 10
First Holy Communion May 5

Thank You! Know your prayers make a difference.

First Holy Communion Enrollment

February 6, 2018
6:30 pm - 7:45 pm
In the Church

All Families of students in Grade 2 or in the RCIC Track program should plan to attend. There will be a short meeting at 6:30 and Children will receive an enrollment blessing following the meeting.

Catechist Mid-Year Retreat:
Sharing Your Story of Faith

Upcoming Dates: Feb. 3/Feb. 20/March 8

- Discover where God has been active in your life and in your classroom
- Tap into your own faith story to enrich your teaching
- Connect more deeply with your experience as a catechist
- Hear the witness of other faith-filled catechists
- Bless and be blessed!

Don’t miss this inspiring opportunity to continue your formation and spiritual development as a catechist. During this 2-hour session, you will pray and share your faith story, have personal reflection time, know God’s peace and discover new meaning in your ministry. Gift yourself with this opportunity for growth.

Call Mary Jane to register 630-960-3565 ext. 219

Catechist and Adults Invited to

Foundations of Faith Formation Series

Tuesday February 20, 2018
Topic: Creed II

Tuesday April 17, 2018
Topic: Creed III
Adult Faith Formation

The ONE topic ONE night Speaker Series aims to provide our parish a platform to foster dialogue, cultivate enriching ideas, and continue an appreciation of learning as an active and lifelong process.

One topic. One night. One faith. January 23rd at 7:00pm Speaker: Father Shaun Topic: Relativism


“Lord, teach us to pray...”

Prayer is an essential element to a vibrant faith life. Explore the secrets to opening our hearts to Scripture as a means to hear from God.

Prayer-Finding Intimacy with God strengthens our resolve to live in and through the deep love of God.

Begins Tues Jan 9th, 7:00pm in the Underground. Info at: kjohnson@stmarygostyn.org or www.stmarygostyn.org Faith Formation - Café Evening Study tab

Nourish is for anyone juggling the challenges of life, health, career and caring for an aging parent, grandparent, or spouse, in town or at a distance. Nourish provides family caregivers practical and emotional supports, shared experiences and useful tools, all with a Christ-centered view. Discover blessings in caring for another.

January 17th 7:00pm Parish Center Living Room

More information: Kelly at kjohnson@stmarygosyn.org or www.stmarygostyn.org Faith Formation - Nourish tab.

January topic: The Realities of Stress and Learning to Cope

Are you handling stress well? Find out! We’ll use tools to measure actual levels and discuss practical ways to reduce it. The physical and emotional strains of caregiving can place you at higher risk for memory problems, heart disease and depression. Can faith, worry and stress co-exist? Be nourished.

www.nourishforcaregivers.com
Women’s

CHRIST RENEWS
HIS PARISH

SAVE THE DATE

The women of CRHP #33 hope that you will prayerfully consider joining them for CRHP #34 on the weekend of February 24th to 25th.

For information or to register, please contact Carolina Menapace at cmenapace@gmail.com.

Traveling Statue of Our Lady of Fatima

- Our Lady calls you by name.
- Bring Her into your home for one week.
- Pray the Rosary together every day or evening.
- Invite family, neighbors, or friends.
- Receive Her into your home and witness the many blessings and graces that She brings.

We will bring Our Lady to your home from Saturday to Saturday and provide the Rosary materials. Please call Diana @ (630) 971-1026 and reserve your week with Our Lady.

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Presider Schedule for Saturday, January 20th and Sunday, January 21st

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mass Times</th>
<th>Presider</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 4:30 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Shaun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 8:00 AM</td>
<td>Fr. Jim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 10:00 AM</td>
<td>Fr. Shaun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Shaun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Jim</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, and Altar Servers, please consult your online personal schedule and email reminders for assignments.

SMG Evening Book Discussion

Thursday, January 18 Parish Center 7:00 PM The All Girls Filling Station’s Last Reunion by Fannie Flagg

A daughter discovers a secret on her mother’s past when she runs her family’s filling station in the 1940’s.

Books are on hold at the Downers Grove Public Library. Please ask for the SMG Evening Book selection. Everyone is welcome. For further information, call Pat Burton (630) 852 - 2168.
All are invited to celebrate our

Valentine Gala

When: February 10, 2018 at 6:00pm

Where: Esplanade Lakes, Downers Grove

Dinner, Dancing, Live and Silent Auction and the Drawing for the Grand Prize for the Lucky in Love Raffle

Registration is now open at:
www.Stmarygostyn.org

Check or cash payments can be dropped off at the Rectory.

$100 per person, tables of 10 for $1000

Proceeds for this event go to our School Operating Budget, our Endowment Fund and our Athletics Department
St. Mary of Gostyn
Catholic Church

RECTORY: 444 Wilson Street  630-969-1063

RECTORY STAFF:
FR. JAMES SCHWAB, Pastor, ext. 200
jschwab@stmarygostyn.org
FR. SHAUN CIESLIK, Parochial Vicar, ext. 212
scieslik@stmarygostyn.org
DEACON AL AGURKIS, Permanent Deacon ext. 221
deaconal@stmarygostyn.org
DEACON BOB MICIUNAS, Ministry Coordinator and
Protecting God’s Children Administrator, ext. 244
deaconbob@stmarygostyn.org
MRS. VALERIE BAVA, Business Manager, ext. 201
vbava@stmarygostyn.org
MR. STEVEN BISAILLON, Music Director, ext. 236
sbisaillon@stmarygostyn.org
MRS. LEANNE BROWN, Office Manager, ext. 200
MRS. KELLY JOHNSON, Adult Faith Formation
kjohnson@stmarygostyn.org
MRS. PAT VENA, pvena@stmarygostyn.org

SCHOOL: 440 Prairie Avenue  630-968-6155

SCHOOL STAFF:
MR. CHRIS TIRITILLI, Principal
MRS. CHRIS KALAL, Assistant Principal
MRS. DIANNE CZOPEK, Secretary, ext. 216
MRS. MARY TOH, Secretary, ext. 215
MRS. MARY GRACZYK, School Website Coordinator
smgweb@stmarygostyn.org

PARISH CENTER: 445 Prairie Avenue  630-960-3565
( Religious Education Offices)
MRS. MOIRA BARKER, Office Manager and
Bulletin Editor, ext. 245, mbarker@stmarygostyn.org
MRS. TERRI O’DEKIRK, Development Director and
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MRS. LAVONNE CZECH, Marketing Director, ext. 211
lczech@stmarygostyn.org
MR. FRANK GLOWATY, Office of Advancement, ext. 261
fglowaty@stmarygostyn.org
MS. ANNETTE SPIEZIO, Counselor, ext. 302

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF:
MRS. MARY JANE WAHL, Director of Religious Ed., ext. 219
MRS. JENNIFER LISZKA, Religious Ed. Assistant

This Week

Monday / 15
3:00 PM  Basketball
6:30 PM  Rosary

Tuesday / 16
8:00 AM  School
3:00 PM  Basketball
6:30 PM  Buildings & Grounds
6:30 PM  Legion of Mary
6:30 PM  School Advisory Body
6:30 PM  Prayer Group
7:00 PM  Evening Bible Study

Wednesday / 17
3:00 PM  Basketball
4:30 PM  Religious Education
6:30 PM  6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
6:30 PM  Religious Education
7:00 PM  Nourish for Caregivers

Thursday / 18
9:00 AM  Women’s Bible Study
1:15 PM  H.S.A.
1:15 PM  Small Christian Communities
3:00 PM  Basketball
4:30 PM  Religious Education
5:45 PM  Children’s Choir
7:00 PM  10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal
7:00 PM  Evening Book Discussion

Friday / 19
3:00 PM  Basketball
5:00 PM  PADS

Saturday / 20
12:00 AM  PADS
8:00 AM  Basketball
7:00 PM  Jr. High Social

Sunday / 21
8:00 AM  RCIA
8:00 AM  Liturgy of the Word
9:00 AM  Appalachia Outreach
10:00 AM  RCIC
1:00 PM  Basketball
4:30 PM  6PM Choir Rehearsal
8:00 PM  Men’s Basketball
NEW PARISHIONERS: We are happy to welcome new members to our community, and encourage you to register either in person at the Rectory, or register online through our website, www.stmarygostyn.org.

BAPTISMS: St. Mary of Gostyn offers baptismal preparation sessions on a monthly basis. If this is your first child or it has been more than five years since you attended a baptismal preparation session at St. Mary’s or another parish, you will need to participate in a session before you can receive a date for your baby’s baptism.

Parents are the first and primary educators in the practice of the Faith. Godparents play an important role in the faith life of your child. While considering godparents for your child, be aware that at least one must be a baptized and confirmed Catholic who is active in his/her faith. Please call the parish office at 630-969-1063 to register for a preparation class and to schedule a baptismal date.

BECOMING A CATHOLIC: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process of welcoming and preparing adults for the Sacraments of Initiation - Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation - for full membership in the Catholic Church. Unbaptized adults, adults baptized in another Christian faith, and baptized Catholics with little or no formal religious education are invited to participate. Please call the rectory for further information.

ANNULMENTS: We are available to help anyone who is in need of information about how to apply for an annulment. Please contact the rectory at (630)969-1063.

LITURGY of HOURS: Morning Prayer (Lauds) is prayed Monday through Saturday following the morning liturgies.

SACRAMENT of ANOINTING: The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is available at regularly scheduled liturgies throughout the year, or by appointment. You may ask the presiding priest before any Mass for an anointing. Communal Anointing Masses are held on the 1st Saturday of the month in August, December, and April at the 8:00 AM Mass.

The Eucharist will also be brought to those who are ill, upon request. Please notify the Rectory if members of your family are in the hospital or homebound.

FUNERALS: Arrangements are usually made by the Funeral Home or by a family member. A member of our Bereavement team will meet with you to plan the Funeral Liturgy. Eulogies can be given at the Wake Service, Interment at the Cemetery or at the Funeral Luncheon, but not at the Mass of Christian Burial.

MARRIAGES: Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance to provide ample time for preparation of this sacrament.

PRAYER GROUPS: Monday evenings at 7:15 PM in the Parish Center; Tuesday evenings at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center chapel.

ROSARY DEVOTION: Monday through Saturday, 7:30 AM in the church; Rosary will begin at 6:30 PM on Monday evenings in the church.

RECONCILIATION: Confessions are heard Saturday, 3:30 to 4:30 PM in church. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also available by appointment. Please call the Rectory (630-969-1063) to arrange to have your confession heard by a priest.